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SECRETARY OF DEFENSE WILLIAM J. PERRY
TOAST GIVEN AT DINNER IN GREAT HALL
BEIJING, CHINA
OCTOBER 16, 1994

Secretary Perry: Minister Chi, Madame Zhang, speaking for the Department of Defense, Senator Nunn, Senator Warner, Ambassador Roy, I want to thank you for the very warm hospitality we have received here this evening. I want to also thank you for the very impressive ceremony which honored myself and my delegation in front of the Military Museum today. You honored us by playing our national anthem and displaying our flag at the Military Museum. You described the historic development of the Shanghai Communique many years ago. It was just fourteen years ago that another event occurred which was, I believe, also historic. That was the first American defense delegation to visit China and to begin the U.S. and Chinese defense relationship. Now fourteen years later we have the opportunity for another historic event, which is to renew that defense relationship. I believe it is important to the security of both of our countries, indeed, to the security of the whole world that the United States and China have friendly relationships and friendly relationships between our two defense ministries. That's why I'm here. I'm looking forward, tomorrow, to meeting with you and the other military and government leaders that you have arranged. These meetings will help our two militaries to build understanding and trust that has been missing for too many years. And by building this understanding and trust, we can make China, America, and indeed the whole world, more peaceful and more secure. Let me propose a toast to the health of Minister Chi, to the health of Madame Zhang, and to the warm relationship between (our two countries).
Gan bei.